though in the latter one would of course supply in the mind the missing "and before 2d" needed to make it definite.

DRYOCAMPA RIVERSII Behr. — The name of this species has been omitted from Prof. Smith's new list of lepidoptera of boreal America, but no harm has been done thereby as it must be referred to the synonymy. I have seen three specimens by the kindness of Prof. Rivers and of Dr. Behr. The following is the synonymy and bibliography:

OEDEMASIA SALICIS Hy. Edw.

1876 Hy. Edw., Proc. Cal. acad. sci., v. 7, 121, *Heterocampa*.

1882. Grote, Check list Bomb. No. 238 1-2, *Oedemasia*.

1891. Dyar, Psyche, v. 6, 177.

1891. Smith, List lep. No. 1303, *riversii* Behr.

1889. Behr, Proc. Cal. acad. sci., 2nd ser., v. 2, 94, *Dryocampa*.

Dr. Behr adds walnut (Juglans) to the already known food plants of this species.

Harrison G. Dyar.

RECENT LITERATURE.—The eighth part of Buckton's British Cicadae has now appeared completing the work, which extends to two octavo volumes with over four hundred pages and eighty-two plates. 239 species are described, referred to 49 genera. The final part contains some matters of general interest, over fifty concluding pages being given up to some special sections: one on the sterilization of Tettigidae is based principally on Giard's papers on "castration parasitaire"; another on the pygofer, with a plate, treats of the male abdominal appendages with special reference to Sharp's observations; a third on fossil Tettigidae, with two plates, is based on the studies of Heer, Westwood, Scudder, and Germar and Berendt; and these are followed by a general summary, with sections on mounting and preserving and on Tettix found on classic coins, illustrated by a plate. An index is given to each volume, but if there had been added a special table of contents combined with a systematic list of genera, it would have made it more useful and the heads of the separate essays now scattered through the book would have been brought together.

In a recent paper in the Zoologischer anzeiger on the chronological succession of wing colors in chrysalids of butterflies, Urech claims that the Vanessas must have been originally white! White, yellow, red, brown, black, he finds to be the order in which the colors appear, starting from an originally completely white area. His studies, however, have been too limited to draw such sweeping conclusions, though their interest and perhaps their importance cannot be denied.

Dittrich reports in the Zeitschrift für entomologie of Breslau for 1891, p. 21, a cyclopean honey-bee sent him by a school-master in St. Petersburg, one of whose pupils brought it to him saying: "the rascal always flew head downwards!" The only part misshapen was the head whose length exceeded its breadth by one-third. Viewed from the front, a single crescentic compound eye was situated at the upper margin of the head, reaching on either side nearly to the mandibles, without trace of any emargination at the middle line of the head, as one would expect, to indicate the fusion of two eyes. The ocelli were absent.

On further inquiry of the school-master, Herr Hans, the latter stated that he once found a number of such examples in young bees which fell to the ground and repeatedly tried to rise without being able to mount more than half a metre; he had found as many as a hundred in a day; all were born of one mother. The same thing began to be repeated the following year in the brood of the same parent, so that he killed the extraordinary mother. He adds "the daughter of this mother has so far given birth to very few such monsters." Here, surely, is a chance for some Weismannian experiments.